



# CONGRESSMAN JOSH HARDER

9th Congressional District of California

U. S Service Academy Nomination Application Packet

Application Deadline: October 31st



**Congressman Josh Harder  
9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California  
Academy Nomination**

**Nomination Procedures**

We are pleased to receive applications from students in California's Ninth Congressional District for nominations to one of the four U.S. Service Academies-**USAFA, USMMA, USMA, and USNA**. We have established a fair and objective procedure that will allow us to produce the best-qualified candidates for the Academies. To be considered for a nomination, applicants must be legal residents of the Ninth Congressional District of California. We will accept applications from candidates who will graduate from high school in 2024 or those who have already graduated. To be considered for this year's graduating class, applicants must meet the following basic requirements:

- Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
- Must be a United States citizen and a legal resident of the Tenth Congressional District.
- Must be at least 17 years old, but not yet 23 years old (as of July 1<sup>st</sup> the year of admission)

The following information is a brief overview of the selection process. Admission to a Service Academy is a two-tiered process. **First, the applicant must apply directly to the Academy and meet the set minimum standards.** These standards include but are not limited to medical, physical, and academic qualifications. **The second tier in pursuing admissions is the nomination process with the Congressman's office.**

An individual must meet the admission requirements for the Academy as well as receive a Congressional Nomination to be offered an appointment. Please keep in mind that those who receive a nomination **are not** guaranteed to be offered an appointment by the Academy.

Our office will start accepting applications on May 1st and we must receive all information no later than October 31st for those interested in entering one of the Service Academies. All correspondence regarding the Academy Nominations process should be directed to Ms. Katie Jaycox. Please mail or drop off completed applications to:

**Congressman Josh Harder**  
**ATTN: Ms. Katie Jaycox**  
**1776 W March LN, Suite 360**  
**Stockton, CA 95207**  
**Office: (209) 579-5458**  
**Email: [Katie.Jaycox1@mail.house.gov](mailto:Katie.Jaycox1@mail.house.gov)**

Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to reviewing your application. **Information on a student's application or the process will only be released to the student. We will not release any information to the parents.**



## Frequently Asked Questions About Service Academy Nominations

### 1. What is a nomination?

Members of Congress may nominate applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established by law. A candidate may seek a nomination from the following:

- The member of the U.S. House of Representatives who represents the congressional district in which the candidate resides.
- Both U.S. Senators from his/her state; and/or
- Apply directly to the Vice-President of the United States.

### 2. When is the deadline for completing a nomination file?

The deadline to complete a nomination file is the end of October each year.

### 3. What must be included in my nomination file?

- Congressman Harder's Nomination Application.
- Professional Photo with the name written on the back. (No selfies)
- Official SAT or ACT Scores (SAT: 4417, ACT: 7249)
- Official High School Transcripts (If in college or has college credit, you must submit your college transcripts too).
- A one-page resume with extracurricular activities, work experience, and awards
- One-page essay on why you want to go to a Service Academy and why you should receive a nomination.
- One-page essay on one of the two application prompts available.
- Three letters of recommendation with one being from a teacher, principal, or high school counselor

### 4. What happens after I complete my nomination file?

Applicants will be notified when the office receives their application and if there is anything missing from their application file. If they have a complete application by the application deadline, then they will be invited to have an interview with the academy selection committee. These interviews are on the first weekend of December and are scheduled for November. Please check your email regularly.

### 5. Who should I ask to write a letter of recommendation on my behalf?

Some of the people applicants typically seek recommendations from include:

- Teachers
- Counselors
- Employers
- Coaches
- Clergy

- Scout Leaders

A specific recommendation form is not required. A letter of recommendation is sufficient.

**6. Are the requirements the same for all the service academies?**

No. Although many of the qualifications are similar, each academy operates under its own admissions guidelines. Visit the website of the academy of your choice to find the academy's particular admissions qualifications. It is not necessary to seek a nomination to the Coast Guard Academy

**7. What if I choose more than one academy? Will I be limited to a single nomination?**

No. You can be nominated to multiple academies, depending on how well you have competed among this year's pool of candidates. It is possible to be offered an appointment from more than one academy. You may apply to all the academies which you desire to attend. Make sure to also apply to each academy you are seeking a nomination from the Congressman.

**8. When will I know if I have been offered an appointment by the academy?**

Academies will begin to notify candidates of their admission status in February and appointments will be completed by May.

**9. If I do not get an appointment to an Academy, can the Congressman convince one of the Academies to accept me for one of their preparatory programs?**

No, the Congressman does not have any sway over admission to the preparatory programs at the academy. If a student receives a nomination and has a great application, but is lacking in academic qualifications, the academy will offer them an appointment to the preparatory program if they have availability.

**10. What other scholarship programs are there in the military?**

There are several programs out there you might want to consider such as the National Guard Minutemen Scholarship Program, ROTC Scholarship Program, and the Coast Guard Academy. Each Branch also has its own scholarship opportunities for specific careers in the military. Make sure to check out each branch's website and look up education/career opportunities to find more information.



## Application for Service Academy Nominations

U.S. Representative Josh Harder

### Personal Information:

Full Name (Last, First Middle): \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Legal Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address if different than above: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes\_\_ No\_\_ Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a resident of the 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District? Yes\_\_ No\_\_

If not, you are not eligible for a nomination from Congressman Harder. Please go to [house.gov](http://house.gov) to find your congressional representative.

Would you like to receive Congressman Harder's email newsletter? Yes or No

Hometown Newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent or Guardian Information

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### Academic Information:

#### High School:

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Ranking: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average/Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

### College Entrance Examinations:

**\*For an application to be considered complete an applicant must have submitted an official SAT or ACT score before October 31<sup>st</sup> to be considered for a nomination. \***

ACT

Composite: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ English: \_\_\_\_\_ Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Science: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT

Composite: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_ Writing: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

### College/ Preparatory School:

**\*If you have college credit, you must submit an official college transcript even if it's a transcript in progress\***

College (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Hours Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Military Service, if any (include branch, rank, service number, and length of service):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Application History

Have you ever applied for a Congressional Nomination before? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what year and what was the outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any other nominating sources you are pursuing (President, Vice President, Senator):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Academy Information:**

Rank, in order of preference, the Academies to which you have applied (rank using 1, 2, 3, and 4, with 1 being your top and 4 being your last choice. Only rank academies you would consider attending.)

West Point: \_\_\_\_\_ Naval: \_\_\_\_\_ Air Force: \_\_\_\_\_ Merchant Marine: \_\_\_\_\_

Into which branch of service would you like to commission?

Army\_\_ Navy\_\_ Marine Corps\_\_ Air Force\_\_ Coast Guard\_\_ Space Force\_\_

Please indicate your application status:

US Military Academy: Complete \_\_\_\_\_ In progress \_\_\_\_\_ Not applying \_\_\_\_\_

US Naval Academy: Complete \_\_\_\_\_ In progress \_\_\_\_\_ Not applying \_\_\_\_\_

US Air Force Academy: Complete \_\_\_\_\_ In progress \_\_\_\_\_ Not applying \_\_\_\_\_

US Merchant Marine Academy: Complete \_\_\_\_\_ In progress \_\_\_\_\_ Not applying \_\_\_\_\_

What is your preferred major of study at an academy? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your preferred warfare specialty upon graduation? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you considered a career in one of the services beyond the service commitment? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

If you do not get an appointment, do you have a Plan B? Have you applied to any other education/military opportunities available? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please list the opportunities you applied to or considered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please note that for each Academy you are requesting a nomination for, there must be an application on file with the Academy as well. You must have applied with the Academy by October 31<sup>st</sup> otherwise you will not be considered for a nomination. \***

Are you a recruited athlete? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

If yes, what sport and which Academy? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an offer of encouragement from an academy? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

If yes, which Academy? \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Qualification:**

Have you completed the academy medical examination with DoDMERB? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

If "No," is it currently scheduled? YES (write the date) \_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

If you have completed the medical examination, were you found fit for duty? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

**Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA)**

Have you completed the CFA? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

If "No," is it scheduled? YES (write the date) \_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

If "Yes," did you: PASS\_\_\_\_ FAIL\_\_\_\_

Who administered the CFA? \_\_\_\_\_  
Please write their name and position (coach, academy liaison, recruiter, etc.).

**Please record the CFA scores below. If you do not remember the score, please write "Unknown".**

Basketball Throw, Distance	
Pull-Ups, Repetitions	
Flexed Arm Hang, Time	
Shuttle Run, Laps	
Abdominal Crunches, Repetitions	
Push-Ups, Repetitions	
One Mile Run, Time	

### **Extracurricular Activities**

*Please list your involvement in school and community activities in the listed categories. Include information relative to offices held, awards and honors received, and dates of participation. Please print neatly. **This does not count as your professional resume.***

Athletics:

Music and Drama:

School Activities, Societies, Clubs, and Offices Held:

Scholastic Awards and Honors:

Community Service/Volunteer Work:

Employment and Other Activities You Consider Important:



## **Please Read Before Signing:**

I have read and understand the information provided with this application regarding the nominating process and I am familiar with the requirements. I certify that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the Ninth Congressional District of California. I affirm that I have never been convicted or arrested for violating a state or federal statute. I understand the deadline for my application is October 31st. If all the required components are not received by the District Office by the deadline, I understand that my application will be considered incomplete and therefore not considered for a congressional nomination.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Authorization for Release Information**

I release this information to the Office of Congressman Harder for use in the Service Academy Nomination Process. If I am selected for a nomination, I authorize Congressman Harder to release my name as a nominee in press releases and other public documents.

Signature (Applicant): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Parent/Guardian): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Essay Prompts for Nomination:**

The process to receive a nomination to a Service Academy is a highly competitive process. All applicants must draft a one-page essay, single-spaced, typed essay explaining why they want to attend a Service Academy and why the Congressman should choose them for a nomination.

In addition to the above essay, each applicant should choose one prompt below to draft a single-spaced, one-page response. Both typed essays should be returned with their application. Please note at the top of your page which prompt you are responding to by titling your essay either: "What Leadership Means to Me" or "The Challenge I Faced and Overcame".

1. Upon graduation from a Service Academy, you will become a commissioned officer in one of the United States Military Branches and oversee leading a unit, what is leadership to you? What makes you a good leader?
2. The Academy is designed to challenge you physically, psychologically, and academically, describe a time you faced a challenge and how did you overcome it? This could be in school, work, family life, etc.

## U.S. Congressman Josh Harder

### U.S. Service Academy Nomination Application Checklist for Complete Applications

1. Congressman Harder's Nomination Application.
2. Application submitted online to each Academy the student is seeking a nomination for from the Congressman.
3. Professional Photo with the name written on the back. (No selfies)
4. Official SAT or ACT Scores (SAT: 4417, ACT: 7249)
5. Official High School Transcripts (If in college or has college credit, you must submit your college transcripts too).
6. One-page resume with extracurricular activities, work experience, and awards
7. One-page essay on why you want to go to a Service Academy and why you should receive a nomination.
8. One-page essay on one of the two application prompts available.
9. Three letters of recommendation with one being from a teacher, principal, or high school counselor

This last page is for you and does not need to be turned in with your application packet. You do not need to submit everything at once and can submit everything in pieces, if everything is in my office by **October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, by 5 pm**. This means that if you mail it, you had better make sure it arrives in my office by October 31<sup>st</sup> by 5 pm. **NO LATE APPLICATIONS!**

I suggest turning in your application as soon as possible. Please do not wait till the last minute to turn it in to my office. If you turn it in on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm and it turns out you are missing something, then you will have an incomplete application. Incomplete applications are automatic denials for nominations.

If you have questions, please email our office at [Katie.Jaycox1@mail.house.gov](mailto:Katie.Jaycox1@mail.house.gov) or call 209-579-5458. Please refrain from having your parents call or email our office about your application.